



John Reich Journal

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JRCS

JOHN REICH COLLECTORS SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1680 Windham, ME 04062

The purpose of the John Reich Collectors Society (JRCS) is to encourage the study of numismatics, particularly United States gold and silver coins minted before the introduction of the Seated Liberty design, and to provide technical and educational information concerning such coins.

Annual dues \$25.00
Life Membership \$625.00

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The John Reich Journal is the official publication of the Society and is distributed to all members in good standing. Members are encouraged to submit any articles encouraging the study of numismatics and / or relating to early United States gold and silver coins to the editors. Especially needed are articles containing new information about die marriages, die states of published die marriages, attribution methods, collections, collectors, etc.

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Cover Photos: 1836 B-3 small size quarter. One of the most dramatic LDS examples in the entire bust quarter series displaying both obverse and reverse breaks along with die buckling at the lower drapery. Popular and very collectible because it can be found easily with the breaks (R-1) although much tougher in the early die state. Owned by Glenn Marx, pedigreed to the late Jules Reiver which sold in Heritage 1-27-06 Lot 22461 NGC-62 #2032985-017.

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Editors' Comments

Happy Holidays to all the members of JRCS! This issue finishes another exciting year of early American numismatics. The Newman collection containing many fabulous bust coins just passed under the auction hammer in New York. A review of my experiences at the auction will appear in the spring issue of the journal. Other members who were in attendance are encouraged to send an article describing their trip to the auction. Articles on other subjects are solicited for inclusion in a future issue of the journal. This publication is only as good as the membership makes it with their research papers and experiences.

It is now time to pay your dues for 2014 and volume 24 of **The John Reich Journal**. You will find a membership renewal form enclosed to return to Steve Crain with your dues check. Please take a moment to send it today as it will make it easier for Steve to process a large number of checks at one time. You will continue to receive the journal through the end of 2014.

Those members planning on attending the FUN show in Orlando in January should budget time to come to the JRCS meeting scheduled for Friday morning at 9AM. David Finkelstein will be presenting a talk on the yellow fever epidemics that were common to Philadelphia in the early 1800's. Please check the convention program for the room number for the meeting. Dr. Glenn Peterson will be giving a presentation at the Bust Half Nut Club Meeting later on Friday at 11AM on multiple struck bust half dollars. Also, we will be having a meeting at the spring Baltimore convention on Friday afternoon. We are looking for a volunteer to give a presentation at that venue. Can anyone help us?

It is time for the collectors of bust quarters to send their information to Glenn Peterson for the census to be presented in the next issue of the journal. Please send a complete listing of your holdings including duplicates and die states to Glenn at the address listed below. The census information of the member's collections will be reported anonymously by membership number. The census information is an important part of the JRCS, we encourage everyone to participate.

Again, happy holidays to all, now enjoy the latest issue of your **John Reich Journal**.

BUST QUARTER COLLECTORS

The Bust Quarter Census will be included in the next issue of the journal. You are encouraged to send your census information including duplicates and die states to:

Dr. Glenn Peterson at gpeters@tds.net

Fax: 865-694-7780 or snail mail at 9301 Park West Blvd. Knoxville, TN 37923.

How a Death, a Scandal, a Family Connection and Two Loyal Friends Contributed to Benjamin Rush's Appointment as Treasurer of the United States Mint

By David Finkelstein

Introduction

In November, 2012, Ron Guth (President, PCGS CoinFacts) sent me a few hundred pages that he had copied at the National Archives in the 1980s. On one of those pages were copies of two Mint documents. The first was a petition dated August 31, 1797 from Henry Voigt, Chief Coiner, to Elias Boudinot, Director of the United States Mint. The petition requested that the Mint be closed so the workmen and officers could take a leave of absence due to the Yellow Fever epidemic. Voigt's document stated, in part:

The Officers & Workmen belonging to the Mint of the U States, inform the Director that the contagious Fever now prevalent in the City, is increasing – that the Treasurer is now ill with it – that they conceive it very dangerous for them & their Families to continue longer in the City, as at least two thirds of its inhabitants have left it, most of the public Offices have been removed, and as all the Bullion (except a few Clippings) is worked up & coined, and the Deposits paid off – they respectfully request leave of absence that they may leave the City till the Fever shall abate...

The second document was Boudinot's September 1, 1797 order to have the Mint "shut up till further orders". These two fascinating documents launched me on a quest to learn more about the Philadelphia Yellow Fever Epidemics, the Treasurer who was ill with Yellow Fever (Dr. Nicholas Way), his death on September 2, 1797, and the appointment of his successor, Dr. Benjamin Rush, on November 27, 1797.

The appointment of Dr. Rush was critically dependent upon the actions of some very powerful people; people who had known each other for decades and who had contributed significantly to the founding of our nation. This is the account of how the friendships, relationships and actions of some of the forefathers of our nation paved the way for Dr. Benjamin Rush to become the third Treasurer of the Mint.

Dr. Benjamin Rush: An Overview

Benjamin Rush (right) was born on January 4, 1746 in Byberry Township (now part of Philadelphia), Pennsylvania. He graduated from the College of New Jersey (now Princeton) at the age of 14 in 1760. Rush spent 4 years studying medicine in Philadelphia, then attended the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He received his medical degree in 1768. While in London in 1768, he met Benjamin Franklin. Franklin convinced him to continue his medical education in France, as well as join the American Philosophical Society, an organization that Franklin himself founded in 1743. In 1769, Dr. Rush returned to Philadelphia. He opened a medical practice, and began teaching chemistry at the College of Philadelphia, which was founded in 1749 by his friend Benjamin Franklin.



Dr. Benjamin Rush was one of the founding fathers of our nation, and has a long list of accomplishments. In 1775, Dr. Rush assisted in the editing, financing and publishing of Thomas Paine's pamphlet, and suggested that Paine rename the pamphlet from Plain Truth to Common Sense. In July, 1776, Dr. Rush served with his friend Benjamin Franklin, and seven other delegates who represented Pennsylvania at the Second Continental Congress. On August 2, 1776, Dr. Rush signed the Declaration of Independence. In April, 1777, the Continental Congress commissioned him as Surgeon General of the Middle Department of the Continental Army.

How a Death, a Scandal, a Family Connection and Two Loyal Friends Contributed to Benjamin Rush's Appointment as Treasurer of the United States Mint

In 1780, Dr. Rush began teaching chemistry and medicine at the University of the State of Pennsylvania. He was one of the founders of three colleges; Dickinson College in 1783, Franklin College (now Franklin and Marshall) and the College of Physicians, both in 1787. Also in 1787, he was selected as a delegate to the Pennsylvania convention that ratified the United States Constitution. In 1791, the College of Physicians merged with the University of the State of Pennsylvania and became the University of Pennsylvania. Rush held the chair of the Institutes of Medicine and Clinical Practice. In December, 1796 he gave the eulogy for his friend, David Rittenhouse, first Director of the United States Mint and President of the American Philosophical Society.¹

Dr. Rush is considered the "father of American psychiatry".² He was the first physician to believe that mental illness was a disease of the mind and not a possession of demons. In 1812 he published the first psychiatric textbook printed in the United States.³

In addition to having a long career in medicine, and associating with the who's who of American independence and government, Dr. Rush was also the third Treasurer of the United States Mint. He replaced Dr. Nicholas Way, his student, colleague, friend, and patient, who died of Yellow Fever on September 2, 1797, while under his medical care.⁴

The Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793

Dr. Rush was one of the most highly regarded physicians in Philadelphia. He taught chemistry and medicine to many of the physicians of the day. During the Philadelphia Yellow Fever epidemic of 1793, Dr. Rush treated hundreds of patients, many of whom were poor. Whereas many physicians died of Yellow Fever or fled the city during the epidemic, Dr. Rush continued to treat patients, even after he contracted and recovered from Yellow Fever two times. For his efforts, he was applauded as a hero in the newspapers. Dr. Rush took advantage of this by publicizing what he considered to be the causes and treatments for Yellow Fever (above).⁵ In 1799, he published a 28 page pamphlet about Yellow Fever.⁶

**Dr. Rush's Directions,
For Curing and Preventing the
YELLOW FEVER,**

Today we know that Dr. Rush's ideas about the causation of Yellow Fever and its treatment were incorrect. For example, he identified the source of the fever as rotting and contaminated imported coffee laying on the wharf near Arch Street⁷, although we now know that Yellow Fever is a viral infection spread by the bite of the Aedes aegypti mosquito. In addition Dr. Rush believed that Yellow Fever was transmitted from person-to-person, and was spread via the air⁷; neither of which is accurate.

Dr. Rush also treated his patients in very controversial ways. Initially, he administered cold water baths and bloodlettings without success. He then fed the sick a mercury / Root of Jalapa combination in an attempt to violently purge the body of the fever from all orifices (yes, all orifices). Later, he treated the sick with cold water baths, bloodlettings and a mercury / Root of Jalapa combination. Many physicians followed his treatment plan.⁷ Today, it is the belief of many that Dr. Rush's treatments contributed to the death of some of his patients by weakening them further. Nevertheless, in 1793 Dr. Rush was almost universally admired for his medical expertise. That would change during the epidemic of 1797.

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The First Loyal Friend: Timothy Pickering

Timothy Pickering (right), another founding father of our nation, was born in 1745 in Salem, Massachusetts. He has a long list of accomplishments like his contemporaries. In the spring of 1777, General George Washington appointed him as Adjutant General of the Continental Army, and in 1780 he was appointed Quartermaster General. After his position of Quartermaster General was abolished in 1785, Pickering moved to Philadelphia, and went into business with Major Samuel Hodgdon.⁸ Pickering and Hodgdon were listed as merchants in the 1785 Philadelphia Directory.⁹ In September, 1786, at the request of the Pennsylvania State Assembly and his friend, Dr. Benjamin Rush, he mediated disputed land claims in Luzerne County.^{8,10}



In 1787, both Pickering and Dr. Rush were delegates to the Pennsylvania convention which adopted the United States Constitution. In August, 1791, President Washington appointed Pickering Postmaster General of the United States.

In 1793, when most of the government offices and officials relocated outside of Philadelphia due to the Yellow Fever epidemic, Timothy Pickering and his family remained at his residence at 183 North 2nd Street.¹¹ His home was just a few blocks away from the outbreak of the epidemic. On October 1, 1793, in a letter to his nephew, the Reverend John Clarke of Boston, Pickering wrote:

I have such entire confidence in the safety of Doctor Rush's practice, that my fear of the disease is greatly abated. But I follow his advice while in health; so do all my family.⁸

The letter also contained an accounting of how Yellow Fever first struck his household:

On my return home (September 13th) I found one of my sons (Henry) and a servant-man sick. When taken sick, their symptoms (according to my wife's account) corresponded with those mentioned as marks of the common fatal epidemic. Doctor Rush was early called to their aid; and, under his management, with careful nursing, both got well in about ten days. A maid-servant has since fallen sick. Without calling a physician we practised [sic] Doctor Rush's method, and she is now nearly well.⁸

A few days after this letter was written, Timothy Pickering's 6 year old son, Eric, contracted Yellow Fever. Dr. Rush's treatment plan of purging and bloodletting was strictly adhered to, however, Eric did not recover. On October 10, 1793, Eric Pickering died of Yellow Fever.

Since Pickering remained in Philadelphia, he corresponded frequently with President Washington regarding the status of the Yellow Fever epidemic, who was at Mount Vernon. His status letters were based primarily on the information provided by his friend, Dr. Rush. On October 21, 1793, Pickering wrote to President Washington regarding the state of the Yellow Fever epidemic:

I have been honored with your letter of the 14th, relative to the fever which has raged so fatally in this city. 'Accurate information' of its state it may be impossible to obtain. But I am warranted by Dr. Rush's opinion, grounded on his own practice, and the information of other physicians, that there is an abatement of it by at least one-half. For a number of days, preceding the last ten days, I was frequently at Dr. Rush's, when his house was always thronged with applicants for assistance or advice. I sat an hour with him yesterday, and not one application was made.⁸

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The Death: Dr. Nicholas Way

Nicholas Way was born in New Castle County, Delaware in 1750.¹² Relatively little is known about him. A painting of his portrait and letters written by him have not yet been located. Nicholas Way was one of ten students to receive the College of Philadelphia's newly established Bachelor of Medicine degree on June 21, 1768.¹³ In 1771, he was one of four students to receive the College of Philadelphia's first Medical Doctor degree.¹⁴ Since Dr. Rush was the only chemistry professor at the college, and one of the college's few medical professors, there is no doubt that Dr. Rush was one of Nicholas Way's professors.

In 1773, Dr. Way was elected as a member of the American Philosophical Society. In 1787, he was selected as a delegate to the Delaware Convention that ratified the United States Constitution. In 1789, he helped found the Delaware Medical Society.¹⁵ When the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1793 began in Philadelphia, Dr. Way was practicing medicine in Wilmington, Delaware. Thousands of people fled Philadelphia during the epidemic and many sought refuge in Wilmington. Initially, they were denied entry to the city by the citizens of Wilmington, but after Dr. Way intervened, they were given shelter. Dr. Way housed 100 Philadelphians in his Wilmington mansion.¹⁶

After Tristram Dalton resigned as the first Treasurer of the Mint on April 23, 1794, President Washington nominated Dr. Way to Congress as Dalton's replacement on May 19, 1794. On May 20, 1794, Congress approved Dr. Way's appointment.¹⁷ It is presently unclear as to why Dr. Way was appointed Treasurer of the Mint, as he lived and had a medical practice in Wilmington, Delaware, 35 miles away from Philadelphia. What is known is that Dr. Benjamin Rush convinced Dr. Way to accept the appointment of Treasurer of the Mint.⁷

Philadelphia experienced Yellow Fever epidemics every summer from 1793 through 1799. Dr. Way contracted Yellow Fever on August 28, 1797. He performed bloodletting on himself, which was part of Dr. Rush's publicized treatment plan from prior epidemics. When his condition did not improve, he sent for Dr. Rush. Dr. Rush wanted to perform additional bloodlettings. Although Dr. Way was initially against the idea, believing that he was too weak, Dr. Rush convinced him otherwise.⁴

On September 2, 1797, after several more bloodlettings, Dr. Nicholas Way died. Dr. Rush wrote in his medical notebook, "*Sep^r 2: This day died on the 5th day of his disease, my beloved & worthy friend Dr Nich^s Way*".¹⁸ Dr. Way was buried in Friends Burial Ground on September 3, 1797.¹⁹ The identical obituary (right) appeared in two Philadelphia newspapers.^{20,21} [Note that the letter "s" was written/printed as an "f"]

Philadelphia, September 4.

Died on Saturday last, in the 51st year of his age, Doctor NICHOLAS WAY. This gentleman, after a life of great labour and usefulness in the State of Delaware, was invited to Philadelphia as treasurer of the Mint of the United States. Here his talents and knowledge as a physician, prevented his enjoying the retirement he had contemplated. He soon became known, and extensively employed in his profession, more especially in one branch of it, in which he discovered singular judgment and delicacy upon all occasions. Few men have lived, and died with more friends, and fewer enemies. His house in Wilmington for above twenty years was the hospitable & friendly asylum of worth of every kind. The law of kindness was written in his heart. It discovered itself in every thing he did and said. Of this ruling virtue of his life, the distressed citizens of Philadelphia partook largely in the autumn of 1793. The fever which now prevails in our city awakened his humanity in an eminent degree, and to his recommendation, the citizens are indebted for the appointment of five physicians to search for, and take care of such of the poor as may be affected by it. Long I long I will his name be repeated and beloved by all who knew him, and none more than by the companion and friend of his youth, who now with a heart oppressed with the deepest grief pays this tribute to his memory.

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The Scandal: Dr. Benjamin Rush

After Dr. Way died, physicians started to publically speak out against Dr. Rush, opposing his practice of treating Yellow Fever patients with bloodlettings and mercury / Root of Jalapa purging treatments. Newspapers were no longer applauding Dr. Rush for his efforts, but criticizing him (right).²²

As days passed, rumors of the number of bloodlettings and the amount of Dr. Way's blood loss from the bloodlettings increased dramatically. On September 5, 1797, Dr. Rush wrote in his medical notebook, "*The city teems with scandal against my mode of practice*".¹⁸

On September 6, 1797, Dr. Rush wrote a letter to Dr. James Tilton about the death of Dr. Way. That letter was reprinted in the September 21, 1797 edition of Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser (right)⁴.

Identical articles were published in both the October 6, 1797 edition of the Gazette of the United States and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser and the October 10, 1797 edition of Porcupine's Gazette. The following 8 passages are just a few excerpts that brutally attacked Dr. Rush. Note that these articles appeared a few days after Dr. Rush sued the editors of both newspapers for libel.

1. *Dr. Rush having tried the effects of mercurial purges, which he acknowledged to the College of Physicians on the 26th of August, had been recommended to him by Doctors Hodge and Carson... that he assumed the credit of the discovery, though they had been frequently employed, both by the East and West India physicians long before 1793...*
2. *Those acquainted with the causes and laws of contagion thought him insane.*
3. *At other times he promised a removal of the infectious effluvia [noxious exhalation from diseased bodies] with which he asserted the whole atmosphere was loaded, as soon as a heavy rain should fall. An opinion as groundless as any that ever was generated in a whimsical brain.*
4. *So much was the doctor about this period possessed with the notion that he was the only man of common sense existing, that he not only refused to consult with any but his former pupils who submitted to obey his dictates, that he rudely intruded his advice on other peoples patients;*
5. *I knew several that he terrified into chilly fits, some into relapses, and some into convulsions by stripping them in the street and declaring they had the fever – You've got it! you've got it! was his usual salutation upon seeing any one with a pale countenance.*

Dr. Rush Exposed.

WILMINGTON (Del.) Sept. 16.

Extract of a letter from Dr. Benjamin Rush, Philadelphia, to Dr. James Tilton of this place, dated Sept. 6, 1797.

My dear Sir,

Your long and intimate connection with our late mutual friend Dr. Way, may cause you to wish to know some particulars of his death. He was seized on Monday August 28th, with all the usual symptoms of our prevailing yellow fever. He bled himself sparingly twice before 2 o'clock, at which time I was sent for me. His pulse being full and tense I urged more plentiful bleeding. To this he objected, pleading his time of life. He however consented to his being twice bled in the afternoon, losing each time but 6 or 7 ounces of blood; finding his objection great to the only remedy which I thought would be effectual in his case, I called Dr. Griffiths to my assistance, who joined me in urging more copious bleeding. He consented to two more small bleedings, one on the 2d, and the other on the third day of his disease. In all, he lost but little more than 40 ounces of blood, a quantity most of our physicians now find by far too small to subdue an acute case of our fever. On the 4th, 5th and 6th days his pulse became languid, and slow, purges were given and cordials prescribed to no purpose to raise it. He died on the 6th day.—I saw him at 2 o'clock. He was then sensible, but so weak as to speak with difficulty, he looked at me with great tenderness, and his eyes filled with tears. Soon afterwards he was attacked with convulsions, and died at 6 o'clock in the afternoon. I need not tell you who knew his worth, and my sincere regard for him, how much I have been affected by his death. His was as dear to me as a brother.

From my dear sir,
your sincere friend,
BENJAMIN RUSH.

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6. *To crown all his extravagances, he has lately threatened to prosecute Dr. Hodge for telling Dr. Way, on the second day of his fever, that he thought he might recover without any more bleeding.*
7. *Dr. W. [Dr. Nicholas Way] he said was an assassin, because he expressed some doubts of the superior efficacy of mercurial purges to those of a less drastic kind.*
8. *That those "unsuccessful practitioners" who have persevered to this time, in the horrid practice, of bleeding patients to the moment of death (and of this having been done, ample proof shall be addressed) will ever be deterred from continuing those murderous courses, by any thing [sic] but a presentment from the Grand Jury, as public nuisances, does not appear to me so probable as it would seem to this citizen.*

This article was one of many that appeared in the Philadelphia newspapers. It clearly demonstrates the viciousness of articles attacking Dr. Rush. As a result of the scandal, Dr. Rush's medical practice diminished considerably. He considered leaving Philadelphia, and applied to teach medicine at Columbia College in New York City. His application was rejected due to opposition by Alexander Hamilton, a member of the Board of Trustees for Columbia College.²³ This rejection no doubt contributed to Dr. Rush's willingness to consider other options to supplement his diminished medical practice and income.

The Family Connection: Elias Boudinot

Elias Boudinot was born in Philadelphia on May 2, 1740. In the late 1750's, he moved to Princeton, New Jersey and became a legal apprentice to Richard Stockton. In 1760, he was admitted to the bar. Boudinot was elected to the New Jersey provincial assembly in 1775. In 1777, he was appointed by General George Washington as the Commissary General For Prisoners and was also selected as a delegate to the Second Continental Congress to represent New Jersey. From November, 1782 to November, 1783 he was President of the Continental Congress. Beginning in 1789, he represented New Jersey for three consecutive terms in the United States Congress. In October, 1795, President Washington nominated him and Congress confirmed him as the third Director of the Mint.

In 1757, Richard Stockton married Boudinot's older sister Annis. On April 21, 1762, Boudinot married Hannah Stockton, the younger sister of Richard Stockton. Brother and sister married sister and brother. Richard Stockton and Annis Boudinot Stockton had a daughter, Julia. On January 11, 1776, Dr. Benjamin Rush married Julia Stockton, niece of Elias Boudinot. Through this marriage Dr. Benjamin Rush became Elias Boudinot's nephew.



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Boudinot's Letter To Pickering Recommending Dr. Rush

As Director of the Mint, Elias Boudinot (Benjamin Rush's uncle) reported to Timothy Pickering, Secretary of State (and Benjamin Rush's friend). In a letter dated September 4, 1797, 2 days after the death of Dr. Nicholas Way, Boudinot wrote the following letter to Pickering, informing him of the death of Dr. Way, and recommending Dr. Rush as the next Treasurer of the Mint.²⁴

It is with inexplicable grief, that I announce to you the unexpected death of our excellent friend Dr. Nicholas Way, Treasurer of the Mint. He dyed [sic] last Saturday evening of a most malignant yellow fever. The disorder in the city increases in its malignity, and, of course, is more mortal than it was. I fear from the information that I have, that it will spread over the city. Enclosed is a letter giving the information to the President. I have seen Dr. Rush, whose mind is greatly clouded, by the present appearance of the disorder. He seems determined if he should live thro' this visitation of the city, to retire from business, and I suspect would gladly accept the office of Treasurer of the Mint. It would be a respectable appointment and therefore I mention it to you.

The Second Loyal Friend: John Adams

John Adams, the second President of the United States, requires no introduction. His accomplishments are many, and his influences on the birth of our nation will forever be remembered. What may not be too well known is the close friendship between John Adams and Dr. Benjamin Rush.

Both were members of the Continental Congress and both signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Adams served in the Continental Congress from 1774 through 1777. Rush served in the Continental Congress from 1776 through 1777. After they left Congress, Adams and Rush corresponded for the remainder of their lives on the politics of the day, the war with England, the framing of a new government, and their family life.



The rift in the friendship and the reconciliation between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson is well documented. Most people are not aware that the reconciliation was the direct result of Dr. Benjamin Rush's correspondence with the two, encouraging each to reach out to the other.

Pickering / Adams Correspondence

President John Adams consulted with Timothy Pickering regarding the appointment of the next Treasurer of the Mint. Letters between the two were dated September 5, 9, 12, 16, 18 and 22, October 2, and November 2, 1797. In a letter dated September 18, 1797 to Pickering, President Adams wrote:

Dr. Way I knew not; but his character is such as excites a deep regret for his death.

Dr. Rush I have known, esteemed, and loved, these three and twenty years. His learning and ingenuity are respectable, and his public and private virtues amiable. His services, from the beginning of our great Revolution, were conspicuous and meritorious. He had no small share in recommending our present Constitution, and might be eminently useful to the present administration.²⁷

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Since the Treasurer of the Mint reported to the Director of the Mint, and the Director of the Mint reported to the Secretary of State, the Treasurer of the Mint was a member of the Secretary of State's staff. Although President John Adams placed the decision of selecting the Treasurer of the Mint with Secretary of State Pickering, President Adams mentioned Dr. Rush in 3 separate letters to Pickering:

1. *I pray you. Sir, to consider all these characters and their pretensions, and give me your advice. I have myself considered them all with attention, and I hope my judgment is not too much influenced by my affections, if it leans in favor of Dr. Rush. If your opinion is clearly with mine, you may make out his commission as soon as you please. But, if you have any doubts, we will delay the appointment for further consideration.²⁷*
2. *I shall return to you all the letters of recommendation, that you may file them all together, consider them maturely, and return them to me when we meet. I still incline to Dr. Rush.²⁸*
3. *The applications for the Treasury of the Mint are so numerous and respectable, that whoever obtains it ought to think himself highly honored by his competitors, if not by his appointment. My prevailing opinion, which I have before intimated to you, is not altered.²⁹*

Other Applicants For Treasurer Of The Mint

Once the death of Dr. Way was publicized, people started applying for the Treasurer of the Mint position by contacting Boudinot, Pickering and Adams. Some had government contacts put in a good word for them. The following is a list (probably a partial list) of candidates for the vacancy. The names in italics are as they appeared in the correspondence between Boudinot, Pickering, and Adams.

1. *Jonathan Williams Esq*: Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia, and the great nephew of Benjamin Franklin, wrote a letter on September 3, 1797 (the day after Dr. Way died) to Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury from 1789 to 1795, seeking Hamilton's assistance in obtaining the position.³⁰ He also applied directly to Elias Boudinot²⁴ and President Adams.²⁷
2. *Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg*: a member of the Continental Congress in 1779 and 1780, President of the Pennsylvania state convention to ratify the United States Constitution, the first person to sign the Bill of Rights, and the first Speaker of the United States House of Representatives applied directly to President Adams.²⁶
3. *Mr. Caldwell*: John Caldwell applied directly to Timothy Pickering.²⁵ He was also recommended to Pickering by his brother-in-law, Dr. James McHenry, the Secretary of War.³¹
4. *Rev. J. Armstrong*: Reverend James Armstrong was minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Trenton, New Jersey from 1786-1816, Secretary of the Society of the Cincinnati from 1790-1797, and a trustee of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton).²⁷
5. *Mr. James Sykes of Dover*: possibly James Sykes Jr., Delaware state senator and future Governor of Delaware.²⁸ His father, James Sykes, was a Delaware delegate to the Continental Congress, and served with John Adams in 1777.
6. *Dr. David Jackson*: a Philadelphia druggist and apothecary.^{27,32}

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7. *Dr. James Hall of Yorktown.*^{24,26}
8. *Dr. Conover:* possibly Dr. Samuel Forman Conover,⁷ who studied under Dr. Rush at the College of Philadelphia.^{24,25,33}
9. *General Miller:* possibly Brigadier General Henry Miller.²⁶
10. *Colonel Francis Nichols.*²⁶
11. *Mr. John Knapp:* possibly a teller at the Bank of Pennsylvania,³² was recommended to President Adams by U. S. Senators John Henry and Richard Potts of Maryland.²⁷
12. *Mr. Armstrong.*²⁵ possibly Thomas Armstrong, Attorney.³²
13. *William Mumford Esq.*²⁷
14. *Mr. Huger:* possibly Charles Huger, a merchant²⁵

The Appointment of Dr. Benjamin Rush

Pickering remained impartial regarding the selection of the new Treasurer of the Mint. He did not want anyone to feel that there was a hint of impropriety in the selection. Pickering wrote Secretary of War, Dr. James McHenry, about this, since McHenry contacted Pickering directly about John Caldwell, McHenry's brother-in-law. Pickering informed McHenry that all applications and references for the Treasurer of the Mint were given to President Adams, so as to not raise any "suspicion of impropriety".³⁴

President Adams wrote Pickering on 3 separate occasions that he wanted Benjamin Rush to be the next Treasurer of the Mint, unless of course, Pickering felt otherwise. Although all applicants were considered for the position, Pickering concurred with President Adams. [Note: When your boss tells you 3 times who he wants to fill a vacant position, you should probably listen. If your boss happens to be the President of the United States, make it so.]

The 15th session of the Senate began on November 13, 1797. On Friday, November 24, 1797, a written message from President John Adams was read in front of the Senate. The message included, in part, the nomination of "*Benjamin Rush, of Pennsylvania, to be Treasurer of the Mint of the United States, in the place of Nicholas Way, deceased*". On Monday, November 27, 1797, the Senate confirmed the appointed Dr. Benjamin Rush as the third Treasurer of the Mint.³⁵

How a Death, a Scandal, a Family Connection and Two Loyal Friends Contributed to Benjamin Rush's Appointment as Treasurer of the United States Mint

Acknowledgments

I thank Dr. Henry Hilgard for reviewing the draft versions of my document and suggesting the title. I also thank David Kahn for assisting me in my research at the Library Company of Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

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Bust Dime Census

David Quint

Welcome to the 2013 Bust Dime Census. In this Census we have record participation on the part of collectors, and examples of every single variety of both Draped and Capped Bust Dimes are represented in the submissions.

Early Dime News

Since the last census in 2011 (see JRJ 21/3, December 2011) we have seen the passing of David J. Davis (JRCS #1) and the dispersal of his complete set of Capped Bust Dimes (sans the newly discovered '27 JR-14) to a new generation of variety collectors, all of whom are honored to have a coin or two from the Davis collection as part of their sets (see **The David J. Davis Dime Auction** by Bradley Karoleff, JRJ 22/3, November 2012).

The 1802 JR-1 dime, believed unique since 1982, miraculously saw another example discovered out of a dealer's submission of a bulk lot of coins to NGC (see **Second Example of the Rare 1802 JR-1 Discovered** by David W. Lange, JRJ 23/2, July 2013). The discovery coin, which was sold as part of the Ed Price Collection of Early Dimes by Heritage in 2008, was graded AU Details, Scratched by NCS, while the newly discovered example was slabbed by NGC as Good Details, Repaired and Whizzed. With only two examples known, the 1802 JR-1 remains an R-8 coin. In other R-8 news, Rich Uhrich announced (see JR Newsletter, January 1, 2012) the discovery of a second example of the 1827 JR-14 variety. There are now just 5 remaining dimes that are in the R-7 or R-8 categories.

Year	JR#	Rarity	Examples Known
1796	7	8	1
1802	1	8	2
1803	1	7	6-7
1803	5	7	4
1827	14	8	2

Remarriages are rare in the Bust Dime series. The authors of **Early United States Dimes** (EUSD) were aware of just three – the 1825 JR-1 (re-use of Reverse A after the 1825 JR-3), the 1833 JR-1 (re-use of Reverse A after the 1833 JR-2 and 1832 JR-6), and the 1836 JR-1 (a re-use of Reverse A after it was used to strike the 1835 JR-6). Since then, several new remarriages have been discovered. The 1833 JR-9 is believed to have not one but two remarriages; its reverse (Reverse F of 1833) was used six times – 1834 JR-3, then 1833 JR-9.1, then 1833 JR-7, then 1833 JR-9.2, then 1833 JR-10, and lastly 1833 JR-9.3 (see **New Emission Sequence for the TED Successively High Reverse Dimes** by Mike Sherrill, JRJ 11/3, July 1998). The 1832 JR-7 and 1833 JR-4 each have a remarriage based on the same reverse die, with Reverse E from 1832 being used first for the 1832 JR-7.1, then the 1833 JR-4.1, and again for the 1832 JR-7.2, and finally for the 1833 JR-4.2 (see **Capped Bust Dimes – Uncovering the Remarriage of 1832 JR-7 and 1833 JR-4** by Kirk Gorman, JRJ 19/1, May 2008). There has also been some discussion, but no confirmation, of a remarriage of Obverse 1 of 1821 to Reverse A resulting in an 1821 JR-1.2 sub-variety (see Winston Zack's comment and various responses in JR Newsletter, December 18, 2011).

Census

The Draped Bust Dime Census for 2013 is presented in Table 1, with the Capped Bust following in Table 2. Table 3 shows the number of total submissions for each variety for each grade category. In the present census we had a total of 130 examples of Draped Bust Dimes submitted (up from 100 in 2011) and 3,068 examples of Capped Bust Dimes submitted (up from 2,985 in 2011). The Top 3 Draped Bust collections submitted boasted 21, 19, and 15 examples (out of 31 total), while in the 2011 Census the Top 3 came in at 17, 13, and 12 examples. There were 8 Capped Bust sets this census that were complete but for the 1827 JR-14 (versus 6 sets in the 2011 census). Another 4 collections had 121 out of the 123 known marriages. All in all, we had 20 submissions of Capped Bust dimes with 105 or more marriages represented, versus 17 in 2011.

In addition to the 20 Capped Bust collections listed in Table 2, there were many other partial sets submitted with fewer than 105 varieties represented (including a high-grade collection of 51 coins with an average grade of 59 and a set of 11 coins with an average grade of 62). The number of coins reported for each variety ranged from the unique 1827 JR-14 to the 1830 JR-1 with 52 total submissions (this tough R-4+ coin is a favorite of collectors and the subject of some hoarding, and illustrates why the “number reported” in these censuses can be misleading in terms of the rarity of the marriage).

For this census no rarity ratings were revised.

Finest Known by Marriage

The authors of EUSD presented for each marriage the finest known example they had examined or heard about. Tables 4 and 5 are updates to the Finest Known tables first presented in the last census. The information is based on comments from collectors, personal notes, and auction records. The grades shown are generally the NGC and PCGS grades; with both series but especially with the Draped Bust series, these “slabbed” grades of the finest known pieces will tend to be higher in many cases than most specialists would believe the actual grades to be. For the Capped Bust series, the average grade of the finest known coins (the maximum known achievable average grade for the series of 123 dimes) today is virtually unchanged from 2011 at 64.5 (and the average of the finest known Draped Bust dimes is 59.4). The EUSD authors in 1984 claimed an average finest known grade at that time of 58.9 across 122 marriages. Taking the finest submissions for each marriage amongst all Capped Bust participants in the 2013 Census yields a collection with an average grade of 63.0 (just 1.5 points below a collection of the finest known of each variety of the series). Table 4 shows the finest known Draped Bust dimes by marriage and Table 5 shows the same for the Capped Bust series.

Draped Bust Dime Census

Table 1

Year	JR#	Rarity	LM32	622	1300	1355	048	429	238	1050	869	RPD	AVG	MAX
1796	1	3	64		3						6	6	34	64
	2	4					4	20				2	12	20
	3	5	63	30								2	47	63
	4	4		8								2	33	58
	5	5	62	20								3	42	62
	6	3							4			1	4	4
	7	8	2									1	2	2
1797	1	4		4								1	4	4
	2	4	62	20		10	4	45	2			7	29	62
1798	1	3			3	10				12		4	22	63
	2	6	58	3			3					3	21	58
	3	5				15						1	15	15
	4	3	61	40		12	8	30	2			7	30	61
1800	1	4		30	8	25			3			4	17	30
	2	5	64	12	4	12	2	50		8		7	22	64
1801	1	4		30	3	8			4			4	11	30
	2	5		10	8	8	3	40		7	4	7	11	40
1802	1	8	45									1	45	45
	2	5	45		12	40						3	32	45
	3	6	61	20								2	41	61
	4	4	55	30	6		4	40	2			7	25	55
1803	1	7	45	4	3							3	17	45
	2	6	53	30	3	6						5	26	53
	3	4	58	20	3		3		4			5	18	58
	4	5	53		3	40		35		15		5	29	53
	5	7	35	6								2	21	35
1804	1	5	45			3			2			3	17	45
	2	5	63				3					2	33	63
1805	1	3	64		4	55	3		3		25	8	22	64
	2	2		30	4	53	8	45		55	15	11	29	58
1807	1	2	66	10	40	15	3	40	6	12	25	11	28	66
Marriages Owned Avg. Grade			LM32	622	1300	1355	048	429	238	1050	869	31 Known Die Marriages		
			21	19	15	14	12	10	10	6	5			
			54	19	7	22	4	35	3	18	15			

2013 Bust Dime Census

Capped Bust Dime Census Table 2

Year	JR#	Rarity	LM32	960	622	1050A	LM56A	1321	LM56B	1300	578	323	238	048	1006	869	1057	LM13	1050B	978	664	1355	RPD	AVG	MAX
1809	1	3	65	40	30	45	45	40	6	20	25	10	8	3	50	20	25		4	10	40	25	26	28	65
1811	1	3	65	30	30	30	45	30	15	12	53	10	12	35	58	15		25	12	10	45	25	29	29	65
1814	1	3	65	58	30	45	30	30	12	40	35	45	40	8		15	6	50	12	15	50	20	26	30	65
	2	3	66	55	45	40	40	30	30	30	20	10	40	6	12	15	15	50	12	25	45	40	25	31	66
	3	2	66	58	30	45	55	45	12	10	45	40	8	2	50	20	8	55	4	10	25	45	30	30	66
	4	2	67	40	40	25	50	40	8	20	55	25	12	12	40	20	12	30	25	10	25		25	30	67
	5	3	40	50	50	30	30	30	30	6	53	30	10	3	40	6	3	55	4	8		30	27	26	55
1820	1	4	25	55	35	20	55	15	40	20	30	20	6	6	40	30	15	50		25	12	62	27	28	64
	2	3	64	55	60	50	50	35	18	20	45	45	8	10	25	20	15	50	15	10	15	45	27	32	64
	3	4	64	45	58	40	30	15	12	20	50	6	30	3	20	10	12	40	12	15	35	25	25	24	64
	4	5	65	30	50	30	30	25	12	3	20	40	12	10	10	4	12	12	10	20	35	25	25	21	65
	5	4	65	30	45	30	55	25	30	30	20	12	8	4	20	12	12	15			8	23	23	65	
	6	3	64	55	58	35	35	25	15	10	58	4	12	4	25	12	8	35	20	15	43	35	28	25	64
	7	2	64	62	50	50	35	40	8	8	35	35	8	3	20	20	12	45	25		30	10	27	29	64
	8	3	64	58	55	30	50	30	25	8	55	53	20	3	35	20	20	35	40	12	18	10	24	31	64
	9	4	62	30	45	25	30	35	12	12	55	8	12	10	20		15	35	12		35	10	23	26	62
	10	3	40	50	45	55	25	4	12	4	62	20	10	3	20	20	8	50	12	10	25	10	25	24	62
	11	3	66	58	50	40	35	25	20	20	53	50	12	20	30	10	12	25	30	12	40	30	27	31	66
	12	6	60	50	12	20	45	35	30	10	20	12	6	30		10		50	12		8		17	25	60
	13	3	64	50	50	45	30	40	12	3	20	12	30	4	15	15	10			10		40	21	27	64
1821	1	2	64	50	35	45	30	30	12	10	53	45	10	3	40	8	12	40		10	48		25	29	64
	2	6+	20	4	30	8	20	12	12	20	6	4	6	8		12		12	20	6			19	12	30
	3	4	60	25	30	25	35	20	30	6	25	12	8	4	20	12	10	40		8	43	40	24	23	60
	4	2	64	50	50	20	45	12	8	12	58	30	25	6	45	20	15	40	8	12	30	35	25	28	64
	5	3	66	55	60	35	35	25	20	4	50	45	20	20	20	20	10	55	18	15	35	12	25	29	66
	6	2	62	58	20	30	15	30	4	8	58	20	8	3	30	12	15	40	20	10	58	10	27	24	62
	7	2	40	62	20	45	15	12	12	20	50	30	30	3	45	20	15	45	5	8	43	20	32	28	64
	8	2	67	58	50	30	30	40	8	20	55	20	12	20	25	12	10	55	30			63	26	36	67
	9	2	66	50	50	25	10	15	8	20	50	15	20	8	45	15	12	25	15	12	48	8	24	25	66
	10	4+	64	61	40	30	25	24	15	10	40	4	12	11	12	10	6	20	15	15		10	23	27	64
1822	1	4	64	6	20	12	50	12	18	20	20	4	8	3	12	8					6	20	18	64	
1823	1	2	65	50	50	45	40	10	12	10	58	8	15	3	30	45	6	50	7	20	35	58	27	31	65
	2	5-	64	58	45	40	55	45	35	10	30	8	8	6	10	6	12	50	35	12	40	40	31	25	64
	3	2	66	53	20	30	40	53	6	4	40	20	8	8	40	12	12	45	12	30	45		29	31	66
1824	1	2	64	50	40	30	50	30	30	8	58	8	4	40	40	10	10		12	10	45	12	29	29	64
	2	5+	35	25	8	30	10	20	3	8	18	8	4	6				25				14	16	35	
1825	1	4	65	58	55	58	25	50	20	4	58	10	8	8	12	25	15	52	10	10	45	50	26	31	65
	2	2	64	55	35	30	55	40	40	8	55	10	30	15	30	12	12	50	15	10	40	62	27	30	64
	3	4	62	40	50	30	30	45	15	8	50	15	15	35	12	30	10	50	10	12		10	24	27	62
	4	3-	63	55	40	40	35	20	12	12	50	10	8	6	30	3	12	45	30	10	10	8	23	27	63
	5	4+	66	64	35	53	58	45	35	8	50	30	4	12	12	3	8	52	20	10	40	8	27	27	66

Table 2 (Continued)

Year	JR#	Rarity	LM32	960	622	1050A	LM56A	1321	LM56B	1300	578	323	238	048	1006	869	1057	LM13	1050B	978	664	1355	RPD	Avg	Max	
1827	1	3	62	53	30	30	50	30	15	40	12	12	55	10	15	40	10	45	15	8	30	20	28	27	62	
	2	5+	35	12	30	53	45	30	30	8	20	10	4	10	4			30	8	8	15		26	16	53	
	3	1	65	55	20	20	25	40	4	45	58	60	12	12	30	30	12		12	35			20	33	65	
	4	2	66	64	45	35	12	15	12	35	53	30	12	8	12	15	12	40	18	15	55	35	25	28	66	
	5	3	66	53	45	40	58	25	45	4	40	10	8	8	20	20	10	40	8	8	35	40	31	26	66	
	6	2	65	45	20	40	50	20	18	20	53	40	12	12	58	20	12	55	8	30	45	30	26	31	65	
	7	3	63	62	58	50	40	8	12	30	55	30	10	4	58	8	20	40	35	35	48	30	26	33	64	
	8	4	64	40	58	40	30	20	10	20	63	30	12	4	15	6	12	55	20	12	40	30	23	31	64	
	9	4+	58	40	40	50	35	25	20	30	58	15	6	15	30	6	8	55	10	8	35	12	32	22	58	
	10	6+	67	10	30	4	6	3	6	30							65					9	25	67		
	11	2	64	58	40	50	30	12	18	6	62	20	10	4	40	6	15		20	10	35	10	28	24	64	
	12	1	58	55	45	40	12	8	8	20	62	6	12	6	12	8	15		15		8	40	23	24	62	
	13	3	64	58	40	40	25	20	20	20	55	25	10	3	50	30	20	30	20		40	10	24	31	64	
	14	8																		35		1	35	35		
1828	1	2	67	55	45	25	35	45	30	8	58	40	12	10	55	20	10	45	15	10	64	53	30	33	67	
	2	3	63	55	40	30	45	45	18	8	55	4	15	4	15	53	7	53		15	20	45	31	28	63	
1829	1	4+	63	62	55	30	55	25	30	10	62	4	40	12	40	20	12	40	12	15	12	40	27	30	63	
	2	2	65	55	50	20	30	8	20	10	50	6	12	8		30	20	50	15	10		40	22	29	65	
	3	4	65	50	40	30	50	25	4	20	53	20	25	8	30	50	15	55	15	15	55	40	24	34	65	
	4	2	65	58	40	45	40	45	20	10	62	50	20	6	45	40	12	55	4	10	55		22	34	65	
	5	4	45	53	55	45	55	40	20	30	50	50	4	10	15	50	10	45	8	40	40	45	21	36	55	
	6	3	64	45	40	35	45	20	20	20	55	40	45	12	15	63	35	10	53	8	10	50	35	22	34	64
	7	1	65	55	35	25	30	25	25	30	58	40	15	4	45	30	8	50	30	20	40	63	28	36	65	
	8	4+	55	45	45	20	30	40	15	12	40	30	4	20	40		8	30	10	35	45		20	27	55	
	9	4	64	35	35	40	35	40	12	8	61	50	6	8	10		8	55	5	12	48	8	25	25	64	
	10	5+	35	4	6	6	8	8	6	4	10	10	4	6				20		30	6		16	11	35	
	11	4+	63	45	58	50	50	15	40	4	20	8	25	8	10	12	8	45	6	8	10		24	24	63	
	12	3	66	58	45	20	20	40	8	8	58	10	50	6	30	15	15	12	8	25	35	12	21	29	66	
1830	1	4+	45	40	35	12	50	35	45	30	18	12	10	6			10	15	6	10	10	4	52	17	50	
	2	1	64	53	45	20	40	35	18	10	62	62	40	10	40	40	8	50	8	20		35	27	34	64	
	3	3	64	58	40	45	45	12	25	8	50	30	30	10		8	8	61		10	45	15	25	25	64	
	4	2	67	61	50	50	55	40	45	20	55	15	45	8	50	12	8	45	8	12	50	35	27	34	67	
	5	2	65	58	40	35	30	20	30	30	63	40	30	6	25	35	12	50	15	25	50	50	27	35	65	
	6	2	64	55	55	50	45	20	40	30	62	30	12	4	30	30	12	40	3	10	35	45	25	33	64	
	7	4	63	40	30	50	35	30	30	30	20	35	10	3	30	10	10	30	8	25	50	35	26	26	63	
	8	3	64	63	50	40	30	25	10	12	62	8	40	6	45	8	8	55	4	12		25	23	33	64	
1831	1	1	65	50	55	30	30	35	20	10	61	8	8	15	45	8	12	45	12	10	43	40	24	30	65	
	2	3	65	55	45	30	12	35	10	40	55	45	55	7	55	40	12	6	20		10	19	32	65		
	3	1	67	63	55	30	12	4	6	20	40	12	30	10	40	53	15	55	8		46	63	27	28	67	
	4	2	64	58	45	55	25	25	25	8	55	40	20	4	53	45	12	35	4	10	64	40	23	34	64	
	5	1	65	55	58	45	55	45	50	8	62	35	30	4	45	30	15	63	40	12	63	35	31	38	65	
	6	3	65	55	45	30	50	30	20	12	55	40	15	20	12	55	8	50	8	15		53	23	33	65	

2013 Bust Dime Census

Table 2 (Continued)

Year	JR#	Rarity	LM32	960	622	1050A	LM56A	1321	LM56B	1300	578	323	238	048	1006	869	1057	LM13	1050B	978	664	1355	RPD	AVG	MAX
1832	1	2	66	62	30	50	45	30	15	4	58	8	8	10	55	20	8	50	15	25	48	53	26	34	66
	2	2	65	63	40	40	45	53	20	40	58	45	10	12	45	35	12	50	20	10	45	40	27	34	65
	3	4	64	55	50	40	58	6	45	40	40	20	20	6	15	8	20	50	12	8	50	35	32	24	64
	4	3	65	58	30	50	12	25	10	40	58	40	8	4	50	6	12	55	4	20	53	15	24	31	65
	5	2	64	55	55	40	15	30	12	8	55	53	12	10	40	10	12	40	8		43		22	33	65
	6	3	65	50	55	58	35	15	8	8	45	30	55	6	45	6	12	40	20	12	48	45	21	33	65
	7	3	66	53	50	50	45	40	15	8	62	40	45	4	55	20	12	35	8	15	43	20	23	33	66
1833	1	3	65	62	58	25	35	50	12	12	50	30	12	15	30	20	12	61	25	20	62	40	27	34	65
	2	5	63	40	50	58	45	45	20	10	25	8	20	20	20			50	10	12		12	23	27	63
	3	6	63	35	45	6	10	3	10	10	53	15	15	3				20			50		17	24	63
	4	2	66	55	35	48	12	25	12	30	63	50	12	8	53	20	15	35	20	8	45	40	27	28	66
	5	1	68	58	45	55	20	25	15	10	61	50	15	6	55	20	10	40	20	12	50	55	24	37	68
	6	1	65	58	55	40	12	35	12	40	63	10	10	20	50	8	45	55	12	15	50	40	24	33	65
	7	5	58	63	40	6	25	35	12	30	61	15	20	8	8	10	6	63	8	25	10	4	27	21	63
	8	5	64	35	50	40	55	35	30	40	58	12	45	58	35	15	12	35	15	6	53	20	29	30	64
	9	2	65	55	45	50	20	30	15	65	45	10	10	15	50	40	12	50	30	15	48	45	25	35	65
	10	3	65	55	40	40	30	35	20	10	55	10	15	9	30	40	12	40	8	20	48		22	32	65
1834	1	1	67	55	45	40	45	40	25	40	58	40	15	4	53	45	12		8		40	63	20	38	67
	2	3	65	62	50	50	35	25	30	12	63	40	30	10	45	20	15	45	20		53	58	28	31	65
	3	5	58	55	40	40	50	45	30	8	40	35	8	10	40	20	8	8	7	20	30		33	21	58
	4	3	66	53	20	53	58	35	15	20	62	30	12	30	25	55	15	53	45	12	50	30	31	31	66
	5	1	65	50	45	40	20	40	10	6	63	10	12	10	58	30	12	63	12		40	58	24	36	65
	6	2	65	55	63	30	40	12	35	12	62	45	12	15	40	60	10	55	25	20	45	50	29	30	65
	7	2	67	63	58	35	40	58	6	10	55	20	45	12	50	35	10	55	20	8		63	24	38	67
1835	1	1	65	61	50	40	12	30	8	12	58	30	12	10	55	20	12	50	20	25	35	45	24	31	65
	2	4	66	63	55	45	40	20	12	8	50	30	20	30	40	40	12	45	20	35	43	55	23	37	66
	3	2	65	58	62	40	35	35	6	8	55	35	8	4	53	30	10	55	20	12	61	40	26	35	65
	4	2	65	45	55	40	50	35	15	6	55	20	10	10	25	62	10	40		12	43	50	21	34	65
	5	1	65	58	55	30	18	25	10	55	50	20	10	4	50	40	10		15	15	48	40	21	34	65
	6	4	64	50	55	53	45	3	30	20	55	35	8	4	62	20	10	58	15	15	58	15	22	35	64
	7	4	60	58	45	30	45	35	35	40	45	25	20	10	55	40	10	55	12	40	25	6	26	29	60
	8	3	65	45	50	20	12	30	12	10	55	8	8	15	58	30	10	40	15	15	45	10	23	29	65
	9	2	64	55	50	40	12	50	12	10	62	45	8	10	58	40	10	45	20	30	58	55	24	37	64
1836	1	3	65	58	20	40	35	45	10	10	62	35	8	15	45	25	15	50	12	30	62	64	29	33	65
	2	2	66	55	45	30	45	30	10	12	58	58	15	6	55	40	8	30	8	15	62	35	24	37	66
	3	3	64	58	55	20	40	35	12	55	62	50	12	10	35	15	10	30	3	10	30	30	23	34	64
1837	1	4	64	62	62	30	55	30	45	30	62	4	12	10	62	30	12	40	8	35	55	12	27	34	64
	2	3	64	58	58	20	30	4	4	20	50	15	20	9	35	10	20	53	8	40	45	35	26	29	64
	3	2	66	50	40	40	20	55	8	10	40	8	20	12	55	30	12	45	20	40	35	45	27	33	66
	4	1	66	58	30	50	25	58	6	12	63	12	12	15	45	20	15		15	20	58	12	25	31	66
Marriages Owned Avg. Grade			LM32	960	622	1050A	LM56A	1321	LM56B	1300	578	323	238	048	1006	869	1057	LM13	1050B	978	664	1355			
			122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	121	121	121	121	112	112	112	111	109	106	105	105			123 Known Die Marriages
			62	51	43	36	35	29	18	18	49	25	17	10	36	23	12	44	15	16	41	32			

Capped Bust Dime Census by Grade

Table 3

Year	JR#	Rarity	AG/G	VG	F	VF	XF	AU	MS	RPD	Avg	Max
1809	1	3	4	4	2	6	5	4	1	26	28	65
1811	1	3	3	3	5	9	4	3	2	29	29	65
1814	1	3	4	2	4	6	4	5	1	26	30	65
	2	3	1	1	6	6	7	2	2	25	31	66
	3	2	3	6	2	6	7	5	1	30	30	66
	4	2	1	2	3	10	4	3	2	25	30	67
	5	3	5	3	2	9	3	5	0	27	26	55
1820	1	4	2	1	6	10	2	4	2	27	28	64
	2	3	0	3	6	7	3	5	3	27	32	64
	3	4	3	3	7	6	3	2	1	25	24	64
	4	5	3	6	4	9	1	1	1	25	21	65
	5	4	2	3	6	8	1	2	1	23	23	65
	6	3	3	4	6	9	2	3	1	28	25	64
	7	2	1	7	2	7	5	3	2	27	29	64
	8	3	1	2	4	9	1	6	1	24	31	64
	9	4	0	4	5	9	2	2	1	23	26	62
	10	3	3	5	4	5	4	3	1	25	24	62
	11	3	1	2	5	10	2	5	2	27	31	66
	12	6	1	4	3	5	1	2	1	17	25	60
	13	3	2	2	6	3	5	2	1	21	27	64
1821	1	2	2	6	3	4	5	4	1	25	29	64
	2	6+	7	2	5	5	0	0	0	19	12	30
	3	4	3	3	3	11	3	0	1	24	23	60
	4	2	1	3	6	7	3	4	1	25	28	64
	5	3-	1	2	5	10	1	4	2	25	29	66
	6	2	2	7	4	8	2	3	1	27	24	62
	7	2	2	2	8	10	5	1	4	32	28	64
	8	2	0	3	3	8	2	7	3	26	36	67
	9	2	0	6	7	4	1	5	1	24	25	66
	10	4+	2	3	6	6	2	1	3	23	27	64
1822	1	4	6	2	4	5	0	2	1	20	18	64
1823	1	2	3	4	4	4	3	8	1	27	31	65
	2	5-	5	7	5	3	7	3	1	31	25	64
	3	2	2	4	4	6	6	4	3	29	31	66
1824	1	2	2	6	6	4	4	4	3	29	29	64
	2	5+	3	4	0	7	0	0	0	14	16	35
1825	1	4	2	6	3	4	1	8	2	26	31	65
	2	2	0	4	7	6	4	4	2	27	30	64
	3	4	1	4	6	6	3	3	1	24	27	62
	4	3-	2	5	3	6	3	3	1	23	27	63
	5	4+	5	6	2	5	2	5	2	27	27	66
1827	1	3	0	5	7	8	3	3	2	28	27	62
	2	5+	7	7	3	7	1	1	0	26	16	53
	3	1	1	0	4	7	3	3	2	20	33	65
	4	2	0	3	9	6	2	3	2	25	28	66
	5	3	2	8	3	7	7	3	1	31	26	66
	6	2	0	1	5	10	5	4	1	26	31	65
	7	3	1	4	3	8	2	5	3	26	33	64
	8	4	2	1	5	6	4	2	3	23	31	64
	9	4+	2	9	7	8	2	4	0	32	22	58
	10	6+	4	1	0	2	0	0	2	9	25	67
	11	2	4	6	5	6	2	2	3	28	24	64
	12	1	2	6	6	2	3	3	1	23	24	62
	13	3	1	3	2	9	3	4	2	24	31	64
	14	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	35	35
1828	1	2	2	4	4	7	5	4	4	30	33	67
	2	3	5	3	7	3	4	8	1	31	28	63

Table 3 (Continued)

Year	JR#	Rarity	AG/G	VG	F	VF	XF	AU	MS	RPD	Avg	Max
1829	1	4+	1	3	7	5	5	3	3	27	30	63
	2	2	1	5	2	6	1	6	1	22	29	65
	3	4	1	2	3	7	2	7	2	24	34	65
	4	2	3	2	2	2	6	5	2	22	34	65
	5	4	1	3	1	2	7	7	0	21	36	55
	6	3	0	3	3	6	5	3	2	22	34	64
	7	1	1	1	3	11	3	5	4	28	36	65
	8	4+	1	3	3	6	6	1	0	20	27	55
	9	4	4	7	3	3	3	3	2	25	25	64
	10	5+	8	4	1	3	0	0	0	16	11	35
	11	4+	3	7	3	3	4	3	1	24	24	63
	12	3	1	4	4	5	2	3	2	21	29	66
1830	1	4+	15	13	7	11	5	1	0	52	17	50
	2	1	2	5	1	5	6	4	4	27	34	64
	3	3	3	7	3	4	4	2	2	25	25	64
	4	2	2	3	3	5	4	8	2	27	34	67
	5	2	1	2	3	10	2	6	3	27	35	65
	6	2	2	2	3	7	4	4	3	25	33	64
	7	4	3	5	1	13	1	2	1	26	26	63
	8	3	3	4	2	3	3	3	5	23	33	64
1831	1	1	1	5	3	6	4	3	2	24	30	65
	2	3	1	4	2	3	4	4	1	19	32	65
	3	1	6	4	3	4	2	5	3	27	28	67
	4	2	3	2	1	6	4	5	2	23	34	64
	5	1	2	3	3	6	6	6	5	31	38	65
	6	3	1	3	4	4	3	7	1	23	33	65
1832	1	2	2	5	2	5	1	7	4	26	34	66
	2	2	1	4	3	4	8	5	2	27	34	65
	3	4	8	2	6	6	4	5	1	32	24	64
	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	6	2	24	31	65
	5	2	0	5	4	2	4	5	2	22	33	65
	6	3	2	2	3	3	5	5	1	21	33	65
	7	3	2	2	3	4	5	5	2	23	33	66
1833	1	3	1	0	6	10	1	5	4	27	34	65
	2	5	1	5	2	7	3	4	1	23	27	63
	3	6	3	4	3	2	2	2	1	17	24	63
	4	2	0	6	6	7	2	4	2	27	28	66
	5	1	1	2	3	5	3	7	3	24	37	68
	6	1	1	4	4	3	4	5	3	24	33	65
	7	5	7	7	2	6	1	1	3	27	21	63
	8	5	2	3	6	8	4	5	1	29	30	64
	9	2	1	2	5	4	4	6	3	25	35	65
	10	3	0	4	3	5	5	4	1	22	32	65
1834	1	1	1	2	2	1	8	4	2	20	38	67
	2	3	2	4	4	7	4	4	3	28	31	65
	3	5	5	11	2	7	5	3	0	33	21	58
	4	3	4	3	4	9	1	6	4	31	31	66
	5	1	1	4	3	2	5	4	5	24	36	65
	6	2	2	5	5	6	4	3	4	29	30	65
	7	2	1	4	1	5	3	5	5	24	38	67

Table 3 (Continued)

Year	JR#	Rarity	AG/G	VG	F	VF	XF	AU	MS	RPD	Avg	Max
1835	1	1	0	3	6	6	2	4	3	24	31	65
	2	4	0	2	2	6	7	4	2	23	37	66
	3	2	2	5	1	6	2	7	3	26	35	65
	4	2	1	3	3	3	5	4	2	21	34	65
	5	1	1	3	2	5	2	6	2	21	34	65
	6	4	2	2	3	5	1	7	2	22	35	64
	7	4	3	3	3	7	6	3	1	26	29	60
	8	3	0	6	5	4	3	3	2	23	29	65
	9	2	0	4	3	3	4	8	2	24	37	64
1836	1	3	1	4	4	8	4	2	6	29	33	65
	2	2	1	3	3	4	4	5	4	24	37	66
	3	3	1	3	3	6	3	5	2	23	34	64
1837	1	4	1	3	6	6	2	3	6	27	34	64
	2	3	2	5	1	9	3	5	1	26	29	64
	3	2	0	3	3	8	6	5	2	27	33	66
	4	1	2	1	7	6	2	4	3	25	31	66

Total reported in all grades 3,068

Table 4 - Finest Known Draped Bust Dimes

Year	JR-1	JR-2	JR-3	JR-4	JR-5	JR-6	JR-7
1796	66	65	65	67	62	65	Fr det
1797	66	65					
1798	66	63	66	65			
1800	62	65					
1801	64	62					
1802	45*	62	61	62			
1803	45	58	64	58	35**		
1804	55	63					
1805	65	67					
1807	66						

*AU Details, **XF Damage

Table 5 - Finest Known Capped Bust Dimes

Year	JR-1	JR-2	JR-3	JR-4	JR-5	JR-6	JR-7	JR-8	JR-9	JR-10	JR-11	JR-12	JR-13	JR-14
1809	65													
1811	65													
1814	67	66	67	67	65									
1820	66	67	65	65	65	64	65	64	68	66	66	60	65	
1821	65	65	63	65	66	65	65	67	66	65				
1822	66													
1823	66	64	66											
1824	66	40												
1825	66	66	65	65	66									
1827	66	53	65	66	66	67	65	66	58	67	65	67	65	35
1828	67	66												
1829	63	67	66	65	55	65	67	63	64	35	63	66		
1830	58	65	67	67	67	66	65	64						
1831	67	66	67	66	66	67								
1832	66	66	65	65	65	65	67							
1833	66	66	65	65	65	65	67	64	67	65				
1834	68	65	58	66	67	65	67							
1835	65	66	65	65	65	64	60	65	65					
1836	66	67	67											
1837	64	65	66	66										

*Rumors of an MS65 1829 JR-5



Rare 1838-C Repunched 5 Classic Head Half Eagle, Prime Die State

Eric M. Krauss, M.D.

The 1838-C Classic Head half eagle is scarce, with a mintage of 17,179 pieces. Two die marriages are known sharing a common obverse with the mintmark C above the left half of the digit 3 in the date, block style 8's, and a single forecurl above Miss Liberty's forehead. One reverse has a boldly repunched 5 in the denomination and the second (lower) leaf of the upper olive leaf pair in contact with the U of UNITED; the other has a normal 5 and leaves well separated from the letter U. (On low-resolution images, the relationship of the leaf to the letter U is easily seen and permits rapid attribution). The Repunched 5 marriage also has repunching of most of the letters of USA, and is number 6516 in Breen's Encyclopedia. (Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of United States Coins) The Normal 5 is Breen-6517 and also has a small bud between the middle and lower leaf pairs.

The Repunched 5 is the scarcer of the two marriages with 57 attributable auction listings found between August 1969 and the present (July 2013), less 3 duplicate listings for a net total of 54 specimens. For the Normal 5 there are 136 attributable listings less 6 duplicates for a net total of 130 specimens. This suggests that just under 1/3 of surviving 1838-C half eagles are Breen-6516's.

The Repunched 5 reverse is nearly always found with a large bisecting die crack extending from A₂ of AMERICA, through the shield and eagle's left (facing) leg, to the opposite edge below the middle leaf pair. There is usually a loss of detail in the region where the leg joins the shield, presumably because of die subsidence. In contrast, the Normal 5 reverse developed no reverse die crack. (Breen incorrectly described a reverse die crack for both varieties in his Encyclopedia).

As part of a project to assemble a complete set of the 34 known die marriages of the Classic Head half eagle series, I purchased an example of the 1838-C Repunched 5 half eagle in June 2010 from Bowers and Merena, lot 3628, NGC 289235-001, graded EF-45. This coin had no trace of a reverse die crack. I reviewed all available images to find other examples of the prime die state of this marriage, and was surprised to identify only two others. The census is as follows:

1. MS-63 PCGS, Bowers and Merena Bass Sale session II October 1999, lot 866; identical to MS-63 NGC, Superior October 1989, lot 4378. Coin shows 2 small rim nicks, lower obverse, one below second 8 in date, another 4 dentils toward SI3; 2 small marks between nose and left rim between S3 and S4; on reverse, small diagonal mark between rim and upright of D in denomination.

2. EF-45 NGC, Bowers and Merena June 2010, lot 3628, identical to uncertified EF-45 Superior September 1998, lot 2031. Radial scratch from R of AMERICA halfway to eagle's wing. This is the author's specimen.
3. "AU-50 polished," Bowers and Merena Bass Sale session III, November 2000, lot 351.

The rarity of the 1838-C Repunched 5 prime die state suggests that the reverse die failed very early in a production run of approximately 5,000 to 6,000 pieces. Collectors of this fascinating series are encouraged to examine their specimens to see if there are other examples to add to this census.



Left: Reverse of 1838-C half eagle, Repunched 5, prime die state.
Right (Heritage Auctions): same die marriage, usual die state,
bisecting crack.



A Heated Battle for an 1830 JR-1 in NGC 58 By the Easton Collection

On November 1, 2013, Heritage auctioned off may be the finest known 1830 JR-1 Capped Bust dime. This die marriage has a rim to rim die crack above the UNI in United and is believed to be the rarest die marriage for 1830. Heritage indicated that it is a rarity 5, but our JRCS census reports it to be a 4+. In the December 2011 JRCS census there are 46 reported with the highest grade AU50. The average grade is Fine 16.

Auction prices are very unpredictable especially for finest known examples. Even more unpredictable are prices for Capped Bust dimes in possible condition census one condition. I always figured the condition census is worth about a 10% to 15% premium for the grade. The other twist to this auction is what follows - a huge Stacks auction in Baltimore the week after and right after Baltimore is the eagerly awaited Newman auction in NYC. No breathing room for us collectors. I figured that there was a chance to rip off the 1830 JR-1 for a decent price. A review of the Lovejoy auction catalog reported that Lovejoy had a VG and the highest known back in 1988 was a VF reported in the Lovejoy catalog.

My research searching through the last 10 years of auction catalogs indicated to me that there hasn't been an 1830 JR-1 auctioned in AU58 or better.

My son took a trip to NYC for lot viewing and he reported back to me that it was a very nice coin for the grade and was toned original. Several hours before the auction opened, the price was \$2600. It crepted up to \$4600 a few hours before the auction. At about 2 pm, the coin was off, \$5000, then \$6000, then \$7000 action slowed and I was thinking I was the winner, then \$8000, I thought my cut bid to \$8250 was going to close the deal but a couple of seconds later a bid of \$8500 came out of nowhere. OK –now do I bid or wait for a mint state JR1 to come out in the next couple of years? Do I try to cherry pick a JR1 at a show? Long story short – I let it go and someone else got the coin. The final price realized was \$9,987 with the juice. A WOW Price! Based on all my research, that's a new record price for that die marriage!

Bummer! A few seconds passed after the lot closed and huge bidder remorse on my part. Should have made one more bid? If so, would that have gotten the coin? After I told my son that I lost the coin, he cheered me up and said "More for Newman". Good words of wisdom but that's in 2 weeks.

In the end, the work for a complete Capped Bust dime collection still continues along with my research. I added my comments on this JR1 to my notebook and hopefully another high grade coin comes my way.

The next day, I emailed several JRCS members asking them their opinion on the 1830 JR1 and the majority agreed that this coin was a condition census and noted that no higher grade has been auctioned off in researching catalogs in 10-20 years! Many believed that this coin should have sold for about \$5,000 but another bidder and I were going at it. It is very philosophical how much a condition census marriage is worth that's a rarity 4+ in AU 58. I guess that's for another article. That next day, I found out that coin sold to a friend, another JRCS member, and I felt much better. Not that I drove up the price but that the coin landed in very good hands.

How the story ends, It doesn't – on to Baltimore and the following week – Newman! Isn't coin collecting fun?



1830 JR-1 Bust Dime, possibly finest known
Heritage Auctions November 1, 2013, Lot 3292 @ \$9987.50
Illustrations courtesy Heritage Auctions



Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design? By David Finkelstein

Introduction

Most numismatic researchers believe that our nations coinage was redesigned in 1807 by John Reich to his *Motto Over Eagle* design. There are many differences between the Motto Over Eagle design and Robert Scot's *Heraldic Eagle* design. See Figures 1 through 4. Compare the designs with respect to the eagle's head, neck, wing feathers, tail feathers and claws, the olive branch and leaves, the arrows, the shield, and the placement of the motto.



Figure 1 – Heraldic Eagle Silver Design



Figure 2 – Motto Over Eagle Silver Design



Figure 3 – Heraldic Eagle Gold Design



Figure 4 – Motto Over Eagle Gold Design

Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design?

One major change that occurred is that the eagle's wing feathers are spread down on the Motto Over Eagle silver coin design (see Figure 2). On the Motto Over Eagle gold coin design, the eagle's wing feathers remain spread up (see Figure 4).

If It Is In Print, It Must Be True. Right?

Per page 112 of the Half Dollar section of "A Guide Book of United States Coins" [the Red Book], by R. S. Yeoman, 13th Edition, 1960:

John Reich designed the first Turban Head concept of Liberty. The head of Liberty facing left was used on all U.S. coin denominations for the next 30 years. Reich was the first artist to consistently include the denomination on our gold and silver coins.

The above text is the earliest reference that I have found so far that identifies John Reich as the designer of the Turban Head Half Dollars. Since the above text also states that John Reich was the first to include the denomination on the reverse, it can be implied that John Reich also designed the reverse configuration. Eventually, the Red Book added "Designer John Reich" in all Turban Head / Motto Over Eagle sections. There was nothing more to imply. According to the Red Book, John Reich was the designer of the Turban Head / Motto Over Eagle design for all silver and gold coins.

The first die marriage reference that attributed the Turban Head / Motto Over Eagle design to John Reich was "Early United States Dimes 1796-1837", by Davis, Logan, Lovejoy, McCloskey and Subjack, 1984. Per page 73:

After creating the master hubs and dies for half dollars and half eagles in 1807 and large cents and quarter eagles in 1808, John Reich addressed dimes in 1809. To maintain a similar design for all silver issues, Reich reduced the half dollar design and modified it slightly.

On page 75, for the introduction of the 1809 coinage, the authors of the Dime book wrote:

After a one year hiatus in production, the Mint resumed making dimes with the new obverse and reverse design by John Reich.

Per page 381 of "Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins", 1988:

Reich's first assignment was to create new designs for gold and silver denominations; an insult to Scot. The first ones to benefit from Reich's attentions were the denominations most in demand at banks: half dollars and half eagles.

On page 518, Walter Breen also wrote:

Almost six months to the day after John Reich became Assistant Engraver of the Mint, assigned to produce improved designs on all denominations, his new half eagles appeared; Mint Director J. R. Snowden {1860} said the date was Sept. 30, 1807.

For each of the silver and gold Turban Head / Motto Over Eagle designs, Walter Breen states "Designer, Engraver, John Reich".

Per page 11 of "Johann Matthaus Reich, Also Known As John Reich", by Stewart Witham, 1993:

During his tenure at the Mint, I estimate that he [John Reich] executed at least 270 coin dies, obverses and reverses. His first project was the 1807 – 50C piece and the five dollar gold, which were done in 1807. In 1808 he followed with the large cent and 2 ½ dollar gold.

Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design?

Stewart Witham, the foremost authority of his day on John Reich, stated that Reich executed the coin dies. Nowhere in Witham's publication did he state that Reich was the designer of the Turban Head / Motto Over Eagle design.

So, was John Reich the designer of the Turban Head / Motto Over Eagle design?

We Are Really Faced With 2 Questions, Not 1

Before I attempt to answer the previous question, I want to split it into two parts. Whereas *Turban Head* refers to the head die¹ and *Motto Over Eagle* refers to the reverse die, the questions now become:

1. Who was the designer of the Turban Head design?
2. Who was the designer of the Motto Over Eagle design?

I have no evidence to substantiate who designed the Turban Head design. I do, however, have evidence as to who engraved multiple eagles with the characteristics of the Motto Over Eagle silver coin design.

The Society of The Cincinnati

The Society of the Cincinnati was a society of officers from the American and French armies, formed as a society of friends, to perpetuate the remembrance of the Revolutionary War. The society was organized in Philadelphia. Its first President was George Washington².

The Society of the Cincinnati's diploma was given to every member. The diploma was designed by Pierre L'Enfant in 1783 at the request of George Washington (see Figure 5). L'Enfant was a French architect and civil engineer, who retired as a Major from the Continental army. He served under both Generals Lafayette and Washington, and is most remembered for his layout of the streets of Washington, D. C.

While in France, L'Enfant had Augustin-Louis La Belle redraw his concept of the diploma so that it could be accurately rendered as a copper-plate engraving. L'Enfant then had one of the foremost engravers of the day, Jean-Jacques Le Veau create the copper-plate engraving. That engraving was then sent to Philadelphia. Thomas W. Collins was paid to write the text of the diploma in an "elegant" fashion so it could be engraved by a local copper-plate engraver. The local copper-plate engraver that engraved the text for the diploma, printed the first batch of 100 diplomas in November, 1784 (see Figure 6). That engraver was Robert Scot³... who 9 years later was appointed Engraver of the United States Mint.

Proceedings of the Society of The Cincinnati

Figure 7 is an image of the title page of the book "Proceedings of the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati. To Which Is Prefixed, The General Institution Of The Order, As Originally Framed, And Afterwards Altered At The General Meeting, In May 1784.", Philadelphia, John Steele, 1785. Towards the bottom of the title page is an image of an eagle. That eagle is enlarged in Figure 8. Note that the eagle has its wing feathers spread down, its head is looking to the right (your left), its shield has 3 minor apexes, horizontal lines, 8 dark and 7 light vertical stripes, the olive branch is in the eagle's dexter claw, and the arrows are in the eagle's sinister claw. The eagle is similar in appearance to the eagle on the Motto Over Eagle silver coins.

Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design?



Figure 5 – Diploma - Society of the Cincinnati - L'Enfant Design - 1783



Figure 6 – Diploma - Society of the Cincinnati - Completed 1784

Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design?

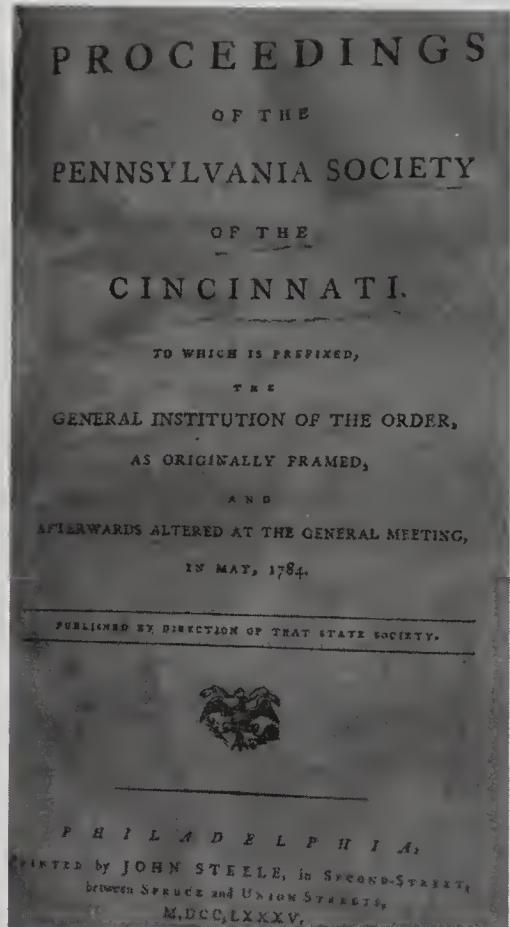


Figure 7 – Title Page: Society of the Cincinnati, Published 1785



Figure 8 – Eagle On Title Page: Society of the Cincinnati, Published 1785

Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design?

At the center apex of the shield in Figure 8 is some sort of marking. This marking was not written on the title page in the book. It was engraved on the plate that was used to print the title page. It is a capital R with an extended right base. Additional letters are above the extended base of the R. The marking is the first initial and last name of the copper-plate printer that engraved the title page... Robert Scot.

Figure 9 is the frontispiece of the same book. The frontispiece is the engraver's adaptation of L'Enfant's completed diploma; not his original design. Whereas the frontispiece has a vertical layout to fit on one page of the book, the diploma has a horizontal layout, and was printed on parchment paper. The frontispiece was signed by its engraver, Scot F., or Scot Fecit, or [Robert] Scot made it. See Figure 10.



Figure 9 – Frontispiece - Society of the Cincinnati, Published 1785

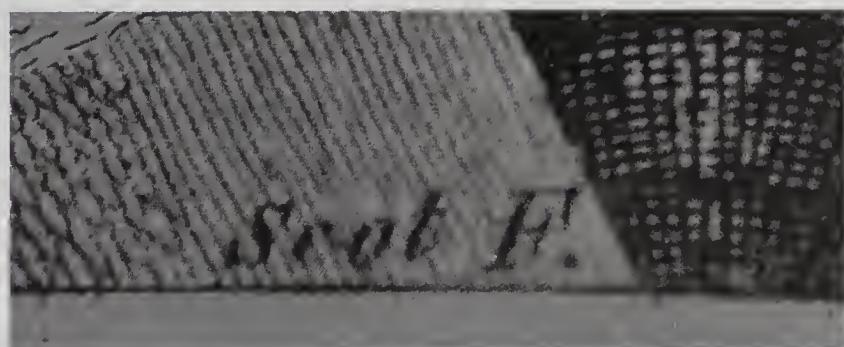


Figure 10 – Frontispiece Engraver

Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design?

Note L'Enfant's eagles at the top of the diploma and in the union of the flag in Figure 6, and Scot's eagle on the frontispiece in Figure 9. They are eagles with their wings spread down, as on the Motto Over Eagle silver coins.

The Hatter Societies of Philadelphia

Figure 11 is an image of a membership card for the “True Assistant Society of Philadelphia, Instituted February 26, 1795⁴”. Figure 12 is an image of a membership card for the “Association of Journeymen Hatters, of the City & Liberties of Philadelphia⁵”. Since the membership cards are almost identical to each other, it is unclear as to whether both societies were two separate societies, or one society whose name changed. The members of the society (or societies) were hatters, or those that made hats.

Note that on each membership card, the eagle is holding a hat in its mouth. Also note that each eagle has its wing feathers spread down, its head is looking to the right (your left), its shield has 3 large apexes, horizontal lines, 7 white and 6 dark vertical stripes, its right wing (your left) has 13 outer feathers, and there are 16 tail feathers. The eagles are very similar to the eagle on the Motto Over Eagle silver coins. Each membership card was engraved with the printer name in the lower right corner... Scot & Allardice... or Robert Scot & Samuel Allardice (see Figure 13).

Samuel Allardice (and not Allardice) was listed in the “Philadelphia Directory For 1793” as an engraver at 40 Sugar Alley. In the “1795 Prospect of Philadelphia” and “Stephen’s Philadelphia Directory For 1796” he was correctly listed as Samuel Allardice, Engraver & Copper-plate printer, 40 Sugar Alley. In 1794, while Robert Scot was employed by the Mint, he and Samuel Allardice formed the partnership of Scot & Allardice. In 1797, Samuel Allardice left the partnership and started his own engraving company. Since the Association of Journeyman Hatters membership card is not dated, the membership cards could only have been printed between 1794 and 1797, while Scot & Allardice was an entity. This was 10 to 13 years before the Motto Over Eagle design was created, and while Robert Scot was employed as Engraver of the United States Mint.

So Who Designed The Motto Over Eagle Design?

Now that you know about some of the engravings of Robert Scot that included eagles, is it more likely that:

- (a) John Reich, a talented assistant engraver, came up with the Motto Over Eagle design on his own, and implemented it on his own, without any support from Robert Scot, or
- (b) Robert Scot, who was exposed to or engraved multiple eagles since 1783 that were similar to the eagle on the Motto Over Eagle silver coins, developed the Motto Over Eagle design, and managed its implementation by John Reich.

Based on the circumstantial evidence in this article, I choose (b) Robert Scot developed the Motto Over Eagle design, and he managed its implementation by John Reich. Hopefully, additional evidence will be discovered that supports my conclusion. What do you think?

Who Was Responsible For The Motto Over Eagle Design?



Figure 11 – True Assistant Society



Figure 12 – Journeymen Hatters

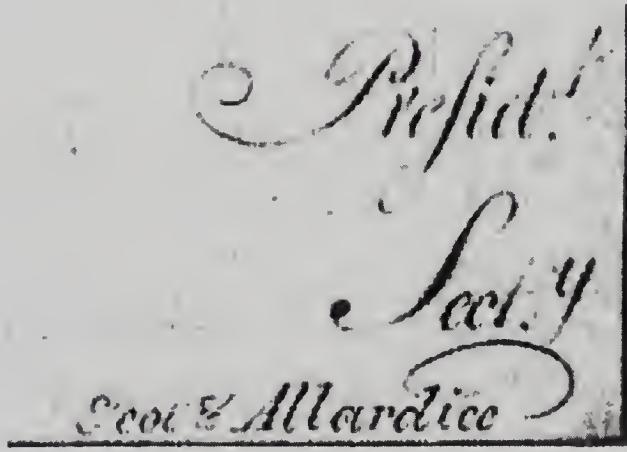


Figure 13 – Scot & Allardice

References

1. In late 1794 / early 1795, Robert Scot responded to questions posed "from the Committee appointed to examine and report on the state of the mint". This handwritten document resides in the National Archives. What is referred to today as "Obverse Die" was referred to as "Head Die".
2. <http://www.societyofthecincinnati.org>.
3. Newsletter of the Society of the Cincinnati, Fall 2000, Volume XXXVII, No. 1.
4. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, DC, Call Number: LC-USZ62-544495.
5. Hagley Museum And Library, Wilmington, Delaware, Penrose R. Hoopes Collection.



Heraldic Eagle Die Analysis - Red, White & Blue

Part 1

By David Finkelstein

Introduction

The delegates to the Second Continental Congress framed our nation. Not only did they name our country, they drafted and approved the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation, initiated the work on the Great Seal of the United States, defined our nation's flag, and also defined our nation's colors.

When flags were waved in battle, the colors red, white and blue were visible. When the Great Seal of the United States was affixed to treaties and Congressional documents, it created an impression without ink, but in the colors, red, white and blue. Likewise, our nation's precious metal Heraldic Eagle coinage, although struck in silver and gold, glistened red, white and blue.

In order to understand the common symbolism between our flag, the Great Seal of the United States, and our Heraldic Eagle coins, an overview of each is required.

The Flag Acts of 1777 and 1794: Red, White & Blue

On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress passed our nation's first Flag Act. That act was simply:

“Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation”.

Vermont became the 14th state on March 4, 1791. Kentucky became the 15th state on June 1, 1792. On January 13, 1794, President Washington signed our nation's second Flag Act into law. That act stated:

“Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That from and after the first day of May, Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, the flag of the United States, be fifteen stripes alternate red and white. That the Union be fifteen stars, white in a blue field”.

The first and second Flag Acts are overt; red and white stripes, and white stars in a blue union (or upper left quarter of the flag). Our flags are red, white and blue.

The Great Seal of the United States: Red, White & Blue

On June 20, 1782, the Confederation Congress adopted the blazon (or description) of the Great Seal of the United States. The following is part of the blazon:

“Paleways of thirteen pieces Argent and Gules: a Chief, Azure. The Escutcheon on the breast of the American bald Eagle displayed, proper, holding in his dexter talon an Olive branch, and in his sinister a bundle of 13 arrows, all proper, & in his beak a scroll, inscribed with this Motto: “E pluribus unum”.

Per Heraldry, *Pales* (or vertical bands) run *paleways* (vertically). *Argent* is the term for white and is represented by a blank area. *Gules* is the term for red and is represented by multiple vertical and parallel lines. “*Paleways of thirteen pieces Argent and Gules*” is therefore 13 vertical white and red vertical bands (or 13 white and red vertical stripes).

Per Heraldry, the *Escutcheon* (or shield) has a *Chief* (a horizontal band across the top). *Azure* is the Heraldry term for blue, and is identified by multiple horizontal and parallel line. “*A Chief, Azure*” is therefore a blue horizontal band at the top of the shield.

The Great Seal is *gules, argent and azure...* or red, white and blue. See Figure 1.

Small Eagle Reverse Coins: Colorless

Per Section 10 of The Coinage Act of April 2, 1792:

“and upon the reverse of each of the gold and silver coins there shall be the figure or representation of an eagle, with this inscription, “UNITED STATES OF AMERICA” and upon the reverse of each of the copper coins...”.

The Coinage Act did not specify that the eagle should have a shield, or that the shield should have a chief and pales. It did not specify that there should be stripes or a union of stars. These design elements were specifically identified in the Flag Acts or the Great Seal blazon, but not in any of the 37 monetary acts approved by Congress from 1791 to 1839. As a result, coins were defined by Congress as monotone or colorless.

Heraldic Eagle Coins: Red, White & Blue

Prior to or while the first Mint was in operation, only one act (The Coinage Act of 1792) specified any design elements for the reverse of the silver and gold coins. Those elements were the eagle and “UNITED STATES OF AMERICA”. It is unknown why an eagle without a shield appeared on the reverse of all of the silver coins dated 1794 to 1797, and the majority of the gold coins dated 1795 to 1797. It is also unknown why the Small Eagle reverse was replaced with the Heraldic Eagle reverse that included a shield, a chief and pales. Any reason for why design elements were added or removed without contemporary proof is pure speculation. Although there may have been multiple valid reasons, I am *speculating* that one reason was to add color to our coins.

The shield on the first Great Seal of the United States and the shield on the reverse of Heraldic Eagle coins are comprised of identical components. Both have *pales* that are color *gules* and *argent* areas (or red and white stripes). Both have a blue *chief*. See Figures 1 and 2. Since the Great Seal blazon was approved 14 years before the first Heraldic Eagle coin was struck, most researchers and authors made the connection that the Heraldic Eagle reverse was a derivative of the Great Seal. A few mentioned that the shield components represented color. I think it is more than that.

While fighting for our freedom, the colonial militias, armies and navy waved their red, white and blue flags for our enemies to see. As the United States of America developed its infrastructure and began forging relationships with foreign nations, our red, white and blue Great Seal was displayed for our allies to see. Finally, as a sovereign nation, our red, white and blue precious metal coins were displayed for our citizens to see.

Speculation? What do you think?



Figure 1 – The First Die of The Great Seal of the United States

“A Chief, Azure”
(Blue)



Figure 2 – 1799 \$1 Bowers Borckardt Reverse A



John W. McCloskey wins the 2012 Jules Reiver Numismatic Literary Award

By Stephen A. Crain

Due to an error on the original 2012 Jules Reiver Numismatic Literary Award ballot, first mailed to JRCS members with their dues notice, which inadvertently omitted two articles from the balloting, it was decided that the only fair and equitable thing to do was to issue a new and corrected ballot to members. Since this required a separate mailing on the part of members, response was somewhat less than in previous years, but the results were no less convincing. Readers were asked to vote on their favorite articles appearing in Volume 22, Issues 1-3 of the John Reich Journal based upon subject matter, content, depth of research, writing style, or any other criteria consistent with the reader's own individual tastes and interests.

Once again, votes were received for every article appearing in Volume 22 of the Journal, attesting to the diversity of subject matter and to the extent of interest in the articles. Just five (5) votes separated the first and second place winners, and there was a three way tie for third place.

The winner of the 2012 Jules Reiver Numismatic Literary Award is John W. McCloskey, for his excellent article entitled "The David J. Davis Bust Dime Collection" appearing in Issue 1, Volume 22 of the John Reich Journal. Congratulations to John for his excellent article, and for his many contributions to numismatic scholarship, and to this organization in particular.



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a <input type="checkbox"/>	Flowing Hair Bust Half Dimes	h <input type="checkbox"/>	Capped Bust Quarter Dollars
b <input type="checkbox"/>	Draped Bust Half Dimes	i <input type="checkbox"/>	Flowing Hair Bust Half Dollars
c <input type="checkbox"/>	Capped Bust Half Dimes	j <input type="checkbox"/>	Draped Bust Half Dollars
d <input type="checkbox"/>	Draped Bust Small Eagle Dimes	k <input type="checkbox"/>	Capped Bust Half Dollars
e <input type="checkbox"/>	Draped Bust Heraldic Eagle Dimes	l <input type="checkbox"/>	Flowing Hair Bust Dollars
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g <input type="checkbox"/>	Draped Bust Quarter Dollars	n <input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Issues

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(Signature of Sponsor Member)

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